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INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
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RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0015
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C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 000081

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State for EUR/FO A/S Kurt Volker, EUR/NB

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/26/2017
TAGS: [PREF](#) [PTER](#) [AF](#) [IT](#) [IC](#)
SUBJECT: ICELAND DISAPPROVES OF PRISONER EXCHANGES

REF: STATE 36204

Classified By: Ambassador Carol van Voorst for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Ambassador met with Foreign Minister Valgerdur Sverrisdottir and advisor Jorundur Valtysson on March 26 and conveyed reftel message, noting the presence of Icelandic government employees in Afghanistan. Valtysson stated the Icelanders shared our views and they did not support prisoner exchanges.

[1](#)2. (C) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed to post on March 8 that there are currently 13 Icelandic citizens in Afghanistan, seven in Kabul and six in Chagcharan Province. We do not anticipate the Icelanders to raise this issue with the Afghans.

[1](#)3. (C) Absent diplomatic missions in either Reykjavik or Rome, we do not anticipate the Icelandic authorities to raise this issue formally with the Italians.

van Voorst